

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00656 211415Z

51

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0656

DEPT PLEASE PASS ALL ARAB CAPITALS AND LONDON, MOSCOW, PARIS,
TEHRAN, AND TEL AVIV

3.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, XF

SUBJ: VISIT OF LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER JALLOUD TO IRAQ

1. PRIME MINISTER OF LIBYA, MAJOR ABDUL JALLOUD MADE A 24 HOUR
VISIT TO IRAQ (JUNE 17-18) DURING WHICH HE HAD TALKS WITH
PRESIDENT HASSAN AL-BAKR AND RCC VICE-CHAIRMAN SADDAM HUSSEIN.
PRIOR TO DEPARTURE JALLOUD MADE LENGTHLY STATEMENT, SIGNIFICANT
EXTRACTS FROM WHICH FOLLOW:

2. WE HAVE MADE EXTENSIVE ANALYSIS AND REACHED AGREEMENT ON FOLLOWING:

A. ARAB'S CENTRAL CAUSE IS CONFRONTING ZIONIST ENEMY AND LIBER-
ATION OF PALESTINE IS THE TARGET; B. ACCEPTANCE OF UN RESOL-
UTIONS 242 AND 338 IS DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF ZIONIST ENTITY;
C. CATEGORICAL REJECTION OF ANY NEGOTIATIONS, CONCILIATION OR
RECOGNITION OF ZIONIST ENTITY; D. CONFRONTATION BY ALL MILITANT
MEANS AGAINST ALL THOSE WHO RECOGNIZE ZIONIST ENTITY OR ACCEPT
SUBMISSIVE SCHEMES, INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CONFERENCE.
INDIFFERENCE IMPLIES APPROVAL OF SUBMISSIVE SCHEMES; E. PEOPLE
OF PALESTINE SHOULD HAVE FULL FREEDOM TO EXERCISE POLITICAL
ACTIVITY AND HAVE ACCESS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION TO PROMOTE
LIBERATION OF PALESTINE; F. BASIC ROLE OF PALESTINE RESISTANCE
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PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00656 211415Z

IS ARMED STRUGGLE AND WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO PROTECTION OF PLO

AND RESISTANCE REGIMENTS BY ALL MEANS; G. DISCUSSIONS AND CONSULTATION WITH THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE AND REJECT NEGOTIATION, RECONCILIATION OR RECOGNITION OF ZIONIST ENEMY; H. FORMATION OF MILITANT, LIBERATION-ORIENTED ARAB OFFICIAL POPULAR FRONT TO MOBILIZE ARAB MASSES INTO SHOULDERING THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR TOTAL LIBERATION OF PALESTINE; AND I. RAISING OF OIL PRICES TO GUARANTEE OUR LEGITIMATE RIGHT. END EXCERPTS.

3. JALLOUD'S STATEMENT RECEIVED PROMINENT COVERAGE IN IRAQI MEDIA AND GOI DID NOTHING TO DISSOCIATE ITSELF FROM IT EVEN THOUGH IT REPRESENTS CONSIDERABLY MORE HARD LINE POSITION THAN RECENT GOI STATEMENTS. JALLOUD VISIT COINCIDED WITH MADIA CAMPAIGN TO COMMEMORATE DEATH OF FOUR ALF "MARTYRS" WHO WERE KILLED IN OPERATION INSIDE ISRAEL ON JUNE 15. SYMBOLIC MASS FUNERAL HELD FOR THEM JUNE 19.

4. COMMENT: IRAQ'S POSSIBLE RETURN TO UNCOMPROMISINGLY HARD LINE ON PALESTINE, ALBEIT ONLY BY ASSOCIATION, IS BELIEVED TO RESULT MAINLY FROM INTERNAL PARTY DIFFERENCES PROBABLY ALSO RELATED TO CONFLICT WITH SYRIA. SADDAM HUSSEIN IS SENSITIVE TO SYRIAN ATTACKS THAT HE REPRESENTS "RIGHTIST FASCIST REGIME" AND IS "SELLING OUT TO AMERICANS" AS EVIDENCED BY RAPPROCHMENT WITH IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND OTHER CONSERVATIVE ARAB STATES, UNDERCUTTING OF SOVIET POSITION BY WESTERN COMPANIES, AND RECENT PROMINENT AMERICAN VISITORS. HE IS ALSO BELIEVED UNDER PRESSURE FROM USSR AND ICP AS SUGGESTED BY HIS RECENT DEFENSIVE SPEECH TO NATIONAL FRONT. (BAGHDAD 665)

5. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR AL-NAGGAR BELIEVES JALLOUD STATEMENT DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY CHANGE IN IRAQI POSITION, WHICH CONTINUES TO BE THAT IRAQ WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO OBSTRUCT A SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO COUNTRIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED AND PALESTINIANS. AL-NAGGAR SEES IRAQI ACQUIESCENCE TO JALLOUD STATEMENT IN TERMS OF INTRA-BAATH RIVALRY AND SADDAM'S DESIRE TO USE MILITANCY ON PALESTINE, WHICH COSTS HIM NOTHING, AS PROTECTIVE DEVICE AGAINST HIS OPPONENTS.

6. OTHER DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS, INCLUDING PERCEPTIVE YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR, ARE NOT SO SURE. IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT, THERE-CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BAGHDA 00656 211415Z

FORE, THAT IRAQ IS AGAIN ADOPTING INFLEXIBLE POLICY OF NO SETTLEMENT BECAUSE OF WHAT IT PERCEIVES AS OVERWHELMING SHIFT IN BALANCE OF POWER IN FAVOR OF ARABS AS TIME PASSES. PENDING MORE EXPLICIT EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, I AGREE WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR THAT LIBYAN STATEMENT DOES NOT REPRESENT IRAQ'S CURRENT POLICY ON NO SETTLEMENT AND IS FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES ONLY. LOWRIE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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